

**North Carolina Department of  
Environment And Natural Resources**

**Division of Environmental Health**

**James B. Hunt Jr., Governor  
Bill Holman, Secretary  
Linda C. Sewall, Director  
Michael U. Rhodes, Section Chief**



May 4, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: Environmental Health Supervisors, Directors, and Coordinators

From: Ed Norman, Program Supervisor  
Children's Environmental Health Branch

Subject: Preparation of Infant Formula at Child Care Centers

Several environmental health specialists and child care operators have inquired and expressed concern about the preparation of infant formula at child care centers. According to 15A NCAC 18A .2804(e), "Formula provided by the child care center shall be commercially pre-packaged, ready-to-feed, fully prepared and packaged in single use containers. However, formula that does not meet these requirements may be provided by the child care center as prescribed by the child's physician or instructed by parent or guardian in writing." Because of the difficulty of properly sanitizing formula bottles, it is preferred that single use containers be used when possible. However, an alternative is to purchase ready to feed concentrate or powdered formula. So long as the child care provider has permission from the parent or guardian, **preparing formula at the child care center is allowed.**

Child care centers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) are required to offer at least one type or iron fortified formula for infants although parents may decline the offer. The CACFP has issued a form (Provision of Iron-Fortified Infant Formula or Breast Milk) to child care centers that must be completed by the parents or guardian of each infant. This form may be used by the child care center to document permission to prepare formula for these children. A copy of this form is attached.

Thanks for your assistance in providing clarification of this issue to your staff. Please call me at (919) 715-3293 if you have further questions.

Cc: EHSS Standard Distribution List  
Alice Lenihan  
Talitha Wright  
Kathy Brownfield  
Child Care Consultants  
Special Nutrition Program Consultants  
Child Health Consultants

**CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM  
PROVISION OF IRON-FORTIFIED INFANT FORMULA OR BREASTMILK**

Name of child care provider or center: \_\_\_\_\_

This facility offers \_\_\_\_\_ formula for infants through the Child and Adult Care Food Program. It is your choice whether or not to use this formula based on you and your infant's needs.

Please check one of the following areas:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will use the formula offered by this facility. I give permission for the formula to be mixed and/or bottles to be prepared for my infant by this facility's staff.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not use the formula offered by this facility. If not, which formula will you send for your infant? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If the formula you provide is a special formula, a medical statement will be requested.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will provide breastmilk for my infant

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Note to parents who are getting formula through the WIC Program. Your baby is eligible to get formula from this child care facility as well as from the WIC Program. It is your decision which formula you want your baby to use when she/he is at child care. If you find that you are getting more formula than your baby needs, you may wish to talk with your WIC nutritionist or your child care provider.*

